

### Abstract

An apparatus suitable for generating a signal for  
5 transmission over a link between two ICs is provided. The  
apparatus receives an input signal comprising payload data  
to be transmitted and processes the payload data in the  
input signal to derive forward error correction data. An  
output signal is generated, the output signal comprising  
10 the payload data received in the input signal and the  
generated forward error correction data. The output signal  
is released for transmission over the link between two ICs.  
The link between two ICs may include for example a  
backplane or a link between two ICs on a same circuit pack.  
15 The use of forward error correction data in a signal  
carried over a conducting medium suitable for carrying  
electrical signals is also provided.